# LONGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

#### **SPRING 2019**



#### PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2019/2020

The Parish Council, as you will have noticed from your recent Council Tax bill, have had to increase the Precept for 2019 /2020.

This has arisen mainly because of the Council's decision to continue to provide a subsidy to Preston Bus in order that Bus Service 12 can continue on the present arrangements. The Council were notified towards the end of last year that despite the existing subsidy of £50K the service was still running at a loss and that the future subsidy would need to rise to £79K.

The Parish Council arranged for the service to be put out to tender and a number of quotations were received. The contract was renewed with Preston Bus at a subsidy figure of £79K which proved to be the cheapest by far. The Council did consider reducing the service frequency to an hourly service. It was felt that in doing this there was a significant risk that the service would loose passengers and create a further shortfall. It was decided that the half hourly service should be maintained.

The Parish Council have also decided to enhance the car parking facilities at Longton Victory Memorial Recreation Ground using Community Infrastructure Levy monies that they have received from past housing developments in their area. The Parish Council will also continue the important work of looking at planning applications in its area and where appropriate making representations as to the suitability or otherwise of proposed developments. It should be noted however that SRBC have the final say on planning matters. Your Parish Council can ensure that pertinent points are raised for consideration, provided of course that those points are planning matters.

In addition the Lengthsman's contract has been renewed, this time for a 4 year period. This is to ensure that we have the resource to keep both Longton and New Longton clean, tidy and attractive villages in which to reside or visit.



## Longton VM

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# Longton Family Fun Day

We are planning to hold a Family Fun Day as part of Longton Live 2019

The planned date is Saturday 13 July

# Please get in touch if you would like to join us on the day and:









We would love to hear any thoughts or ideas you might have, come along and talk to us...!!







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#### **LONGTON SPRING FETE**

This popular annual event will take place on

#### Saturday the 1st June 2019

Starting at 12.30 onwards on Longton Playing Field behind the Black Bull Pub on Liverpool Road and it is expected to have an array of stalls and entertainments which will hopefully attract the usual good turn out.



#### www.longtonparishcouncil.org longtonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

#### **LONGTON OPEN GARDENS SUNDAY 14TH JULY 2019**

This summer Longton open gardens celebrates its 20th anniversary, and falling as it does on Sunday (July 14th) of the Longton Live weekend, we hope to make it extra special. We welcome gardens of all shapes and sizes owned by gardeners who want to share their love of plants with others. The event raises money for overseas development charities and at some gardens there are refreshments on offer or stalls selling plants or crafts. There is music too, making for a great afternoon out.

IF you would like your garden to be featured on Longton Open gardens 2019, contact Cath Greenlees on 613500 or Liz Henfield on 612951

#### **BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 2019**

This year will once again see the Parish Council sponsor the above competition. The competition is automatically open to ALL residents without the need to complete an application form. Members of the Parish Council will be viewing gardens during late June and early July with a view to selecting the best kept gardens in both Longton and New Longton. Why not do that little bit extra and see if you can win one of the garden voucher prizes that are awarded by the Parish Council and presented at the:

#### New Longton Flower Show event on Saturday 7th September 2019

The Annual Flower and Handcraft Show will be held at the New Longton Village Hall on Saturday 1st September 2018 and promises to be another great event. Everyone is welcome and new entrants especially children are particularly welcome. This is the opportunity to show your skills in growing plants/flowers, making cakes, painting, crafts, baking and photography. You can also enjoy a cup of tea with homemade cakes.

#### **CHRISTMAS COMPETITION AWARDS 2018**

Shop Display	Winner	Longton Home and Garden Longton	
Shop Display	Commendation Blundell's Hardware Longton		
House Display (Longton)	Winner	Miss Eastham 31 Shirley Lane Longton	
House Display (Longton)	Commendation	Mr & Mrs Langdale 29 Arkholme Drive Longton	
House Display (New Longton)	Winner	Mr & Mrs Murray 3 Orchard Avenue New Longton	
House Display (New Longton)	Commendation	Mr P Johnson East View Brownhill Lane Longton	

### LONGTON PARISH GOUNGIL NEWSLETTER



#### THE VALUE OF TREES

Our two villages, Longton and New Longton, live up to their reputation of being leafy and tree rich. Trees are an important part of every community by creating an aesthetically pleasing and peaceful environment. Different species display an endless variety of forms, shapes, textures and vibrant colours with even individual trees varying their appearance throughout the seasons. There is evidence that people with views of trees recover better from physical and psychological illnesses and exposure to trees and nature, apparently aiding concentration by reducing emotional anxiety and stress. Trees mask unsightly views, muffle sound from nearby streets and create an eyesoothing canopy of green for local residents. After deciduous trees have shed their leaves following dazzling colour changes during the autumn, life goes on in winter with evergreen trees, like cedars, firs, hollies and spruces, taking centre stage with berries, needles and seeds providing food and shelter for resident birds and the few mammals that venture out in the winter sun. Strategic planting of evergreen trees around a house will help to conserve energy by acting as wind breaks and reducing the impact of high winds on the dwelling. As carbon dioxide is increasing in the environment, contributing to climate change, trees are absorbing this whilst removing and storing carbon and releasing oxygen. They also refresh the air by absorbing noxious odours, pollutant gases and dust by filtering particulates out of the air by trapping them on bark and leaves. In one year, it is estimated that 0.4 of a hectare of mature trees can provide enough oxygen for 18 people. As average temperatures in late spring and summer have risen as tree coverage has declined worldwide. Trees cool areas by shading homes and roads by releasing water vapour into the atmosphere. Shade from trees slows water evaporation from gardens and increases atmospheric moisture. Trees reduce water 'runoff' by breaking rainfall thus allowing water to flow down the trunk and into the earth below and prevent storm water from carrying pollutants to rivers. Mulched trees act like sponges filtering water and recharging groundwater supplies. Planning permission granted on a site with trees, does not give permission to clear the vegetation on the site while birds are nesting. SRBC Planning Authority does sometimes include planning conditions to make doubly sure that developers plan around the bird nesting season, with the advice that tree felling should be avoided between March and August inclusive, but since birds may nest at any time of the year, care is needed at all times to avoid committing an offence.

#### www.longtonparishcouncil.org longtonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

#### YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Donald Alsop	8 Royalty Lane New Longton Preston PR4 4JD	613728
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Nicholas Sumner 8 Dickson Hey New Longton PR4 4ZH 616		
Geoff Welch	3 Oak Grove New Longton Preston PR4 4XT	617791
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Gill Garside	126 Chapel Lane Longton Preston PR4 5FB	617742
Stuart Barnes	57 Back Lane Longton Preston PR4 5BE	611095
Jane Riley	12 The Vinery New Longton Preston PR4 4YB	619030

#### **CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER**

#### W V MCENNERNEY-WHITTLE

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TEL: 01772 733829

**E-MAIL:** longtonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk **WEB SITE:** www.longtonparishcouncil.org

#### DATES AND VENUES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Upcoming meetings are as follows and all commence at 7.30 pm

4th JUNE 2019 @ LONGTON LIBRARY
23rd JULY 2019 @ NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL
17th SEPTEMBER 2019 @ LONGTON LIBRARY
5th NOVEMBER 2019 @ NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL
10th DECEMBER 2019 @ LONGTON LIBRARY

(an adjournment is provided in order that the council may listen to representations from the public)

#### **OVERFLOW CAR PARK TO BE RESURFACED**

Planning permission has been agreed for Longton Victory Memorial Recreation Ground overflow car park to be resurfaced in a permanent material which will allow it to drain and thereby remove the muddy mess that is often seen during wet weather. The improvements will be paid for by developer contributions to the Parish Council and a contribution from the Trustee of the recreation ground. The enhancements will hopefully encourage more use of the facilities and perhaps help to reduce village centre congestion since the car park is open and available to all without charge.